

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/179, 945 10/27/98 ADAMS

J

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QM12/0130

 EXAMINER

PARADISO, J	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3721

DATE MAILED:

01/30/01

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/179,945	ADAMS ET AL.	
	Examiner John R. Paradiso	Art Unit 3721	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2000.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.
 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:
 1. received.
 2. received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) _____.
 3. received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

14) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 17) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
 15) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 18) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 16) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 19) Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 11, 13-15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by BIRENBAUM ET AL, as set forth in paragraph 2 of the previous Office Action.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5, 7, 8, 12, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over BIRENBAUM ET AL as set forth in paragraph 4 of the previous Office Action.

5. Claims 2, 4, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over BIRENBAUM ET AL in view of RICHARDSON (US 4,747,600) as set forth in paragraph 5 of the previous Office Action.

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Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 11/7/2000 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
7. Applicant states on page 5 of his Response that "the Examiner can not ignore applicant's claim limitation of 'a readable memory for storing blocks of data representative of predetermined patterns, said block of data being furnished by media having magnetic coated information which is accessible by means movable relative to said information of said media.' ...

More particularly, in a manner as previously discussed, the information in the memory module 14 of Birenbaum et al must be originally placed onto an integrated chip by a special programming device with the integrated circuit then soldered or plugged into the memory module 14 and, when changes are needed, an integrated circuit must be programmed or reprogrammed by the special programming unit ...".

Examiner agrees with Applicant's statement regarding the programming of memory modules such as the ROM in BIRENBAUM ET AL. However, while it is inherent in the production and programming of ROM chips for use that they be programmed, it is also well known in the art that the programming units are inherently reliant on "media having magnetic coded information which is accessible by means movable relative to said information of said media" such as disks and tapes. Examiner is reading the recitation of Applicant's claim quoted above on this inherent feature.

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Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Paradiso. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (ET).

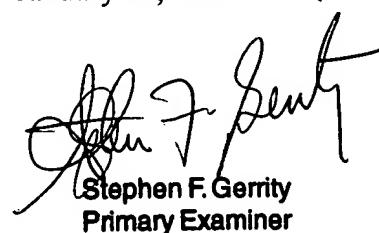
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo, can be reached at the number listed below.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the 3700 Technology Center receptionist.


Examiner John Paradiso
Formal Faxes:
Supervisor Peter Vo
Receptionist

(703) 308-2825
(703) 305-3579/80
(703) 308-1789
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January 23, 2001


Stephen F. Gerrity
Primary Examiner